In re Application of:

PATENT Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 06478.1455

HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1653

Examiner: Unassigned

Juergen ROEMISCH et al. Application No.: 09/849,343 Filed: May 7, 2001 STABILIZED PROTEIN For: PREPARATION AND PROCESS FOR ITS PREPARATION

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents, including any copending patent applications, are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed

LAW OFFICES FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT, & DUNNER, L.L.P. 1300 I STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005 202-408-4000

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documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 25, 2001

Carol P. Einaudi Reg. No. 32,220

LAW OFFICES
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L. L. P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

OCT 2 9 2001
TECH CENTER 1600/2000